Websites that will give your students a grammatically good time!

By Joel Laing

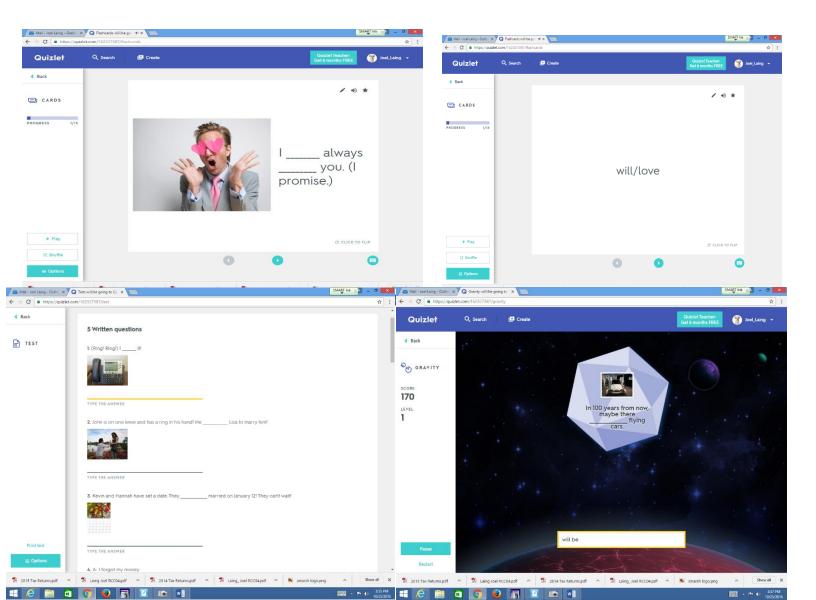
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QUIZLET (quizlet.com)

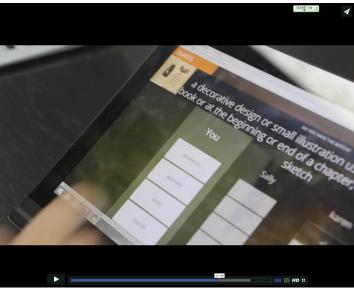
Quizlet was created for the purposes of teaching vocabulary, but it is a fabulous website for teaching students how verbs morph (change) according to various tenses.



QUIZLET LIVE

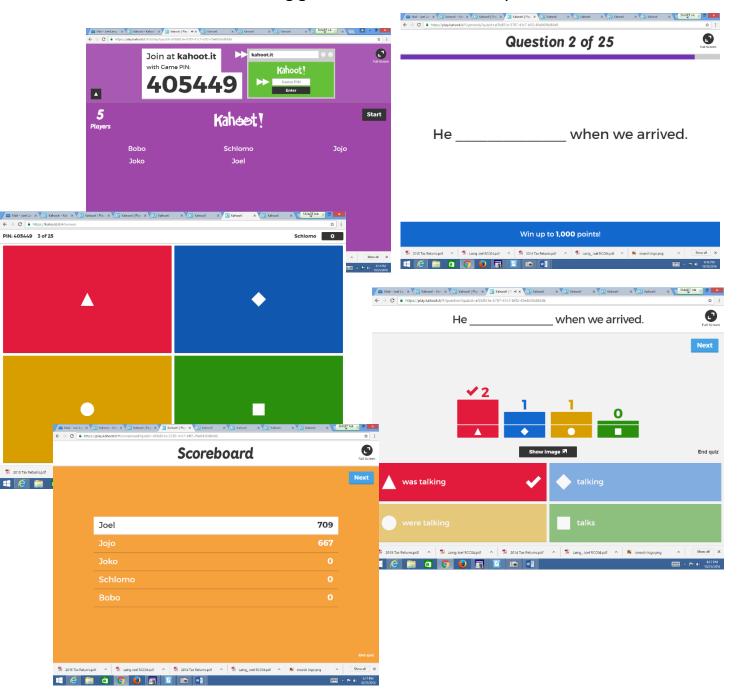
After students have soaked in the language of a given quizlet set by doing the various individualized activities, teachers can have the students play an interactive game called *Quizlet Live*. In this game, students are randomly put in teams. Students then compete with other teams to answer multiple choice questions correctly and quickly. This game forces students to communicate as the answers to the questions may or may not be on their particular screens. This game accelerates both the students' learning as well as their heartbeats!





Kahootz! (getkahoot.com)

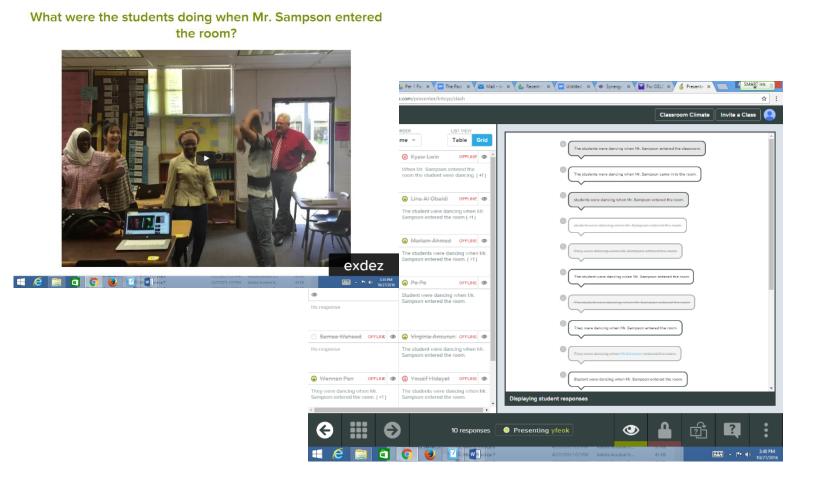
Kahootz! is another student favorite. This website can serve as a pre-teaching tool, or it can be used as a review. In this game, students compete to answer multiple choice questions the most quickly and the most accurately. After the answer to each question is revealed, students find out who the top five students or teams are. Just like *Quizlet Live*, Kahootz! awakens, entertains, and motivates students while reinforcing grammatical structures they need to know!



Pear Deck (peardeck.com)

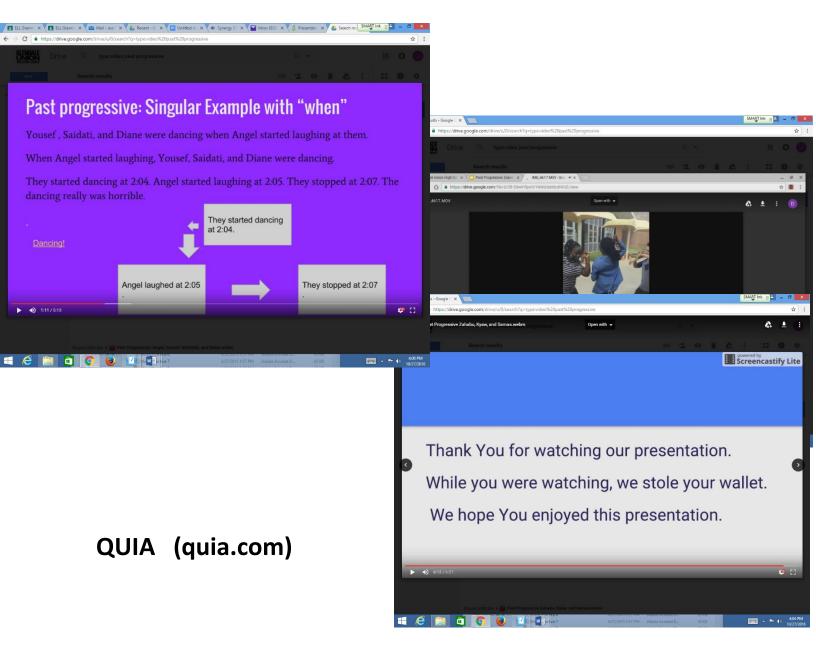
Do your students need practice turning questions written in a given tense into answers? Do they need practice forming questions? Do they need gentle reminders to capitalize and punctuate? Pear Deck is a gift to the grammar teacher wanting to go beyond the early knowledge stage of Bloom's taxonomy and takes them into the application stage and beyond.

With this application, teachers can basically make interactive PowerPoint presentations in which students are asked to create sentences under certain criteria. Teachers can see what students have submitted on their portable electronic devices and they can display students' work on the class screen, enabling students and the teacher to evaluate the quality of the students' work.

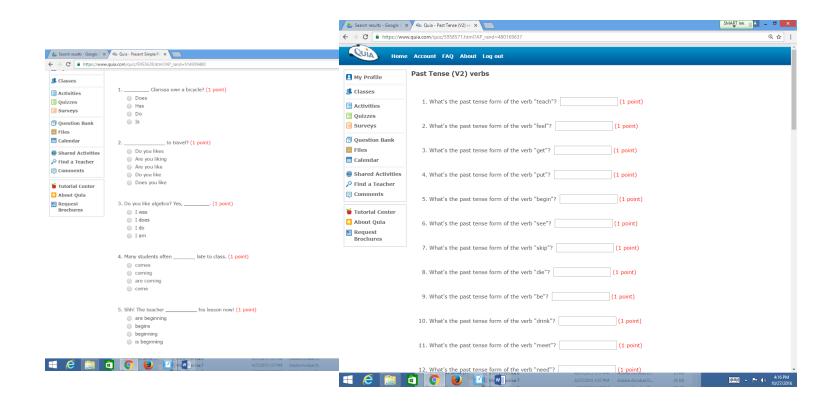


Screen Castify (Download *Screen Castify* off the app store of your electronic devices.)

Teachers looking for students to produce their own presentation videos would do well to use *Screen Castify*. After downloading the app, students can use programs such as *Google Slides* to make presentations on whatever it is that the teacher wants the students to understand. The app will then record their voices as they present the material. The students then share the video with their teacher, and the teacher can then play the video for the whole class. It's even possible to embed student produced videos made on Smartphones within the presentation for extra interest.

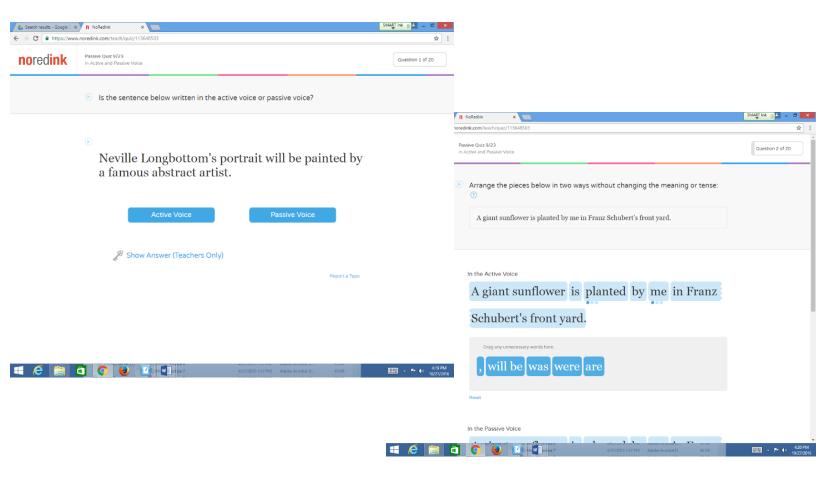


Teachers looking for an alternative to paper tests should look no further than Quia. As opposed to those paper tests where cheating is relatively easy, Quia has the option of mixing up the question order as well as the answer order for multiple choice questions. Teachers may also elect to have students take the same test multiple times just for the sake of exposure to grammatical patterns and extra practice. Quia isn't flashy, but the fact that it saves tests and can serve as a study guide for students is invaluable.



NOREDINK.COM

For higher students teachers believe are on the cusp of testing "proficient" on AZELLA, noredink.com is an invaluable resource. While the website didn't seem to be made with the ELL student in mind (much of the content is full of references to pop icons and nuances that may go over your students' heads), the practice that the students get from this website will definitely give students further insight into advanced grammatical structures and further mechanical conventions in English. Bonus for the teacher: the activities are premade.



Google Classroom (classroom.google.com)

By all means, get your students a google classroom account to help them (and you) stay organized. Students can then have access to former activities and assessments that you have done throughout the year, and they can always go back to revisit them for revision purposes. This is also useful for making announcements and helping students be aware of homework assignments or upcoming assessments.

